



Press Clipping Article

Title: Sprouting - Farmers Market, entertainment venue to open in May

Date: 02/22/2007

Source: [Kentucky New Era \(Hopkinsville\)](#)

Writer: Jennifer P. Brown

Lead:

Construction has started on an open-air pavilion that will house a farmers market beginning this spring at the Founders Square in downtown Hopkinsville.

Article:

Construction has started on an open-air pavilion that will house a farmers market beginning this spring at the Founders Square in downtown Hopkinsville.

The structure will be called the Farmers Market and its main use will be as a site for vendors to sell home-grown fruits and vegetables and other wares in season, said Barbara Hale-Baker, director of the city's Renaissance-Main Street program.

But organizers believe the pavilion will have other uses that should enhance the downtown.

"It's got a great staging area," said Hale-Baker, who noted that a concert is planned at the pavilion for its grand opening on May 11.

The downtown site will become the second farmers market in Hopkinsville. Local vendors have been operating a market at Bradford Square mall for several years.

Hale-Baker said she believes the city can support two markets.

"We're not trying to replace the one at the mall," she said. "We don't want to be in competition. We just thought it would be a good addition for downtown."

A Todd County woman said she and her husband hope to set up a booth at the new downtown market.

"We're definitely interested," said Loretta Ealom. She and her husband, Rossneau, have been selling vegetables and canned goods at Bradford Square and at a Bowling Green market for several years.

The market at Bradford Square will continue this year, and the vendors who sell there believe there are enough customers and vendors to support two markets in Hopkinsville, said Randa Kisselbaugh, the mall's general manager.

Bradford Square provides the space for the market in its parking lot and Farm Bureau assists the vendors by buying the business license, she said.

The mall market is run by a volunteer council of vendors.

Kisselbaugh said she expects the days to remain the same for the mall market this year — Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings.

The Hopkinsville-Christian County Planning Commission is overseeing construction of the downtown pavilion, while Hale-Baker's office will oversee the use of the pavilion when it is completed.

Local planner Jim McBride said construction should be completed by early April.

The pavilion is 112 by 31 feet and will have a terra cotta-style roof. Railing around the pavilion will match the style of details on the bridges at Seventh and Ninth streets near the Justice Center.

Two \$85,000 grants covered most of the construction cost. One is a federal grant from the Agricultural Development Fund and the other grant is from the Governor's Office for Local Development.

The city will spend an additional \$19,000 for a concrete pad under the pavilion, said McBride.

QuickInfo: The Farmers Market

The Farmers Market pavilion is located at Founders Square in downtown Hopkinsville.

The open air pavilion will measure 112 by 31 feet and will include a center stage suitable for concerts and other events.

Construction is under way and should be completed by early April.

[Previous Page](#) [Return to Search](#)

Copyright © 2001-2003 Commonwealth of Kentucky.
All rights reserved.
Generated Date: 3/22/2007 4:46:38 PM